

Department of State

Pt. 9a

(b) *Downgrading.* When material classified at the Top Secret level is reviewed for declassification and it is determined that classification continues to be warranted, a determination shall be made whether downgrading to a lower level of classification is appropriate. If downgrading is determined to be warranted, the classification level of the material shall be changed to the appropriate lower level.

(c) *Authority to downgrade and declassify.* (1) Classified information may be downgraded or declassified by the official who originally classified the information if that official is still serving in the same position, by a successor in that capacity, by a supervisory official of either, or by any other official specifically designated by the Secretary or the senior agency official.

(2) The Department shall maintain a record of Department officials specifically designated as declassification and downgrading authorities.

(d) *Declassification in the public interest.* Although information that continues to meet the classification criteria of the Executive Order or a predecessor order normally requires continued protection, in some exceptional cases the need to protect information may be outweighed by the public interest in disclosure of the information. When such a question arises, it shall be referred to the Secretary or the Senior Agency Official for decision on whether, as an exercise of discretion, the information should be declassified and disclosed. This provision does not amplify or modify the substantive criteria or procedures for classification or create any substantive or procedural right subject to judicial review.

(e) *Public dissemination of declassified information.* Declassification of information is not authorization for its public disclosure. Previously classified information that is declassified may be subject to withholding from public disclosure under the FOIA, the Privacy Act, and various statutory confidentiality provisions.

§9.10 Mandatory declassification review.

All requests to the Department by a member of the public, a government employee, or an agency to declassify

and release information shall result in a prompt declassification review of the information in accordance with procedures set forth in 22 CFR 171.20–25. Mandatory declassification review requests should be directed to the Information and Privacy Coordinator, U.S. Department of State, SA–2, 515 22nd St., NW., Washington, DC 20522–6001.

§9.11 Systematic declassification review.

The Information and Privacy Coordinator shall be responsible for conducting a program for systematic declassification review of historically valuable records that were exempted from the automatic declassification provisions of section 3.3 of the Executive Order. The Information and Privacy Coordinator shall prioritize such review on the basis of researcher interest and the likelihood of declassification upon review.

§9.12 Access to classified information by historical researchers and certain former government personnel.

For Department procedures regarding the access to classified information by historical researchers and certain former government personnel, see Sec. 171.24 of this Title.

§9.13 Safeguarding.

Specific controls on the use, processing, storage, reproduction, and transmittal of classified information within the Department to provide protection for such information and to prevent access by unauthorized persons are contained in Volume 12 of the Department's Foreign Affairs Manual.

PART 9a—SECURITY INFORMATION REGULATIONS APPLICABLE TO CERTAIN INTERNATIONAL ENERGY PROGRAMS; RELATED MATERIAL

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AUTHORITY: E.O. 11932 (41 FR 32691), E.O. 11652 (37 FR 5209, National Security Council Directive of May 17, 1972 (37 FR 10053)).

SOURCE: 42 FR 46516, Sept. 16, 1977; 42 FR 57687, Nov. 4, 1977, unless otherwise noted.

§ 9a.1 Security of certain information and material related to the International Energy Program.

These regulations implement Executive Order 11932 dated August 4, 1976 (41 FR 32691, August 5, 1976) entitled "Classification of Certain Information and Material Obtained from Advisory Bodies Created to Implement the International Energy Program."

§ 9a.2 General policy.

(a) The United States has entered into the Agreement on an International Energy Program of November 18, 1974, which created the International Energy Agency (IEA). This program is a substantial factor in the conduct of our foreign relations and an important element of our national security. The effectiveness of the Agreement depends significantly upon the provision and exchange of information and material by participants in advisory bodies created by the IEA. Confidentiality is essential to assure the free and open discussion necessary to accomplish the tasks assigned to those bodies.

(b) These regulations establish procedures for the classification, declassification, storage, access, and dissemination of certain information related to the International Energy Program.

§ 9a.3 Scope.

These regulations apply to all information and material classified by the United States under the provisions of E.O. 11932, dated August 4, 1976 entitled "Classification of Certain Information and Material Obtained From Advisory Bodies Created To Implement The International Energy Program."

§ 9a.4 Classification.

(a) Section 1 of E.O. 11932, August 4, 1976 directs that information and material obtained pursuant to the International Energy Program and which requires protection against unauthorized disclosure in the interest of the

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national defense or foreign relations of the United States shall be classified pursuant to Executive Order 11652.

(b) Information and material, including transcripts, records, and communications, in the possession of the United States Government which has been obtained pursuant to (1) section 252(c)(3), (d)(2) or (e)(3) of the Energy Policy and Conservation Act (89 Stat. 871, 42 U.S.C. 6272(c)(3), (d)(2), (e)(3)), or (2) The Voluntary Agreement and Program Relating to the International Energy Program (40 FR 16041, April 8, 1975), or (3) the Voluntary Agreement and Plan of Action to Implement the International Energy Program (41 FR 13998, April 1, 1976), or (4) Any similar Voluntary Agreement and Program entered into under the Energy Policy and Conservation Act shall be reviewed by an officer of the Department of State with classifying authority for the purpose of determining whether such information or material should be classified pursuant to E.O. 11652. If the officer determines that the information or material warrants classification, he shall assign it the appropriate classification. Such information or material may be exempted from the General Declassification Schedule established by section 5 of Executive Order No. 11652 if it was obtained by the United States on the understanding that it be kept in confidence, or if it might otherwise be exempted under section 5(B) of such Order.

(c) In classifying such information or material, officers of the Department of State shall follow the standards in E.O. 11652 and the provisions of 22 CFR 9.5 through 9.8.

§ 9a.5 Declassification and downgrading.

The provisions of E.O. 11652, 22 CFR 9.9 through 9.15, and 9a.4(b) shall govern declassification and downgrading of such information or material.

§ 9a.6 Marking.

(a) The provisions of 22 CFR 9.15 through 9.19 shall govern the marking of information or material classified under the provisions of these regulations, except that the following stamp shall be used as appropriate:

(Top Secret, Secret or Confidential)

Department of State

§9b.1

Classified by: _____
Under Executive Order 11932
Exempt from General Declassification
Schedule of E.O. 11652 Exemption Category
section 5B (2), (3), or (4); or E.O. 11932
Automatically Declassified on _____
(effective date or event if any)

Exemption category "E.O. 11932" shall be used for information and material obtained by the United States on the understanding that it be kept in confidence and classified under E.O. 11932.

(b) If the information or material does not qualify for exemption from the General Declassification Schedule, ordinary stamps and marking may be used.

§9a.7 Access.

(a) Except as set forth in this section, access to information or material classified under the provisions of these regulations shall be governed by the provisions of 22 CFR 9.20 through 9.25.

(b) Classified information and material which was created by or in connection with an advisory body to the IEA may be made available to participants in such advisory body and their colleagues in accordance with the following subsections.

(c) Such information and material classified "Confidential" may be made available for review to participants in the meeting of the advisory body in which it was developed or discussed. Where participants are acting as representatives of companies or of the IEA Secretariat, such information and material may be made available for review to employees or other representatives of, or counsel for, such companies or Secretariat: *Provided*, That such person is determined by an appropriate officer of the Department to be trustworthy and to have a need for access to the particular classified information sought in connection with the performance of duties in furtherance of the purposes of the IEA, including the furnishing of legal advice to such participants.

(d) Such information and material classified "Confidential" may be left in the custody of such participants or other persons who may review it for reasonable period of time: *Provided*, That an appropriate officer of the Department determines that it will be

protected from unauthorized disclosure by adequate security safeguards. Such information or material may not be reproduced by those permitted to review it pursuant to this section without the written consent of an officer of the Department with classifying authority.

(e) Such information and material classified other than "Confidential" under E.O. 11652 may be made available for review only to participants in the meeting in which it was developed or discussed; it must be reviewed in the presence of an official of the United States Government with an appropriate security clearance granted by the Department, and may not be left in the custody of such participants.

§9a.8 Physical protection.

Except as provided in §9a.7, the physical protection of information or material classified under this regulation shall be governed by the appropriate provisions of 22 CFR 9.45 through 9.49.

PART 9b—REGULATIONS GOVERNING DEPARTMENT OF STATE PRESS BUILDING PASSES

Sec.

- 9b.1 Press access to the Department of State.
- 9b.2 Press correspondents employed by United States media organizations.
- 9b.3 Press correspondents employed by foreign media organizations.
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- 9b.8 Term and renewal of Department of State press building passes.

AUTHORITY: 22 U.S.C. 2658.

SOURCE: 49 FR 4465, Feb. 7, 1984, unless otherwise noted.

§9b.1 Press access to the Department of State.

(a) Media correspondents without valid Department of State press building passes shall have access to the Main State building identical to that enjoyed by members of the public.